

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SEOUL 01867 080902Z  
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 /018 W  
-----080906Z 069032 /15

R 080550Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO FDA WASHDC  
SECSTATE WASH DC 2510  
INFO USDA/FAS/WASHDC

UNCLAS SEOUL 1867

FDA FOR BUREAU OF FOODS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EPAP, KS  
SUBJECT: KOREAN RED GINSENG IMPORTS TO U.S.

1. AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE HAS BEEN ASKED BY OFFICE OF MONOPOLY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN EARLIEST POSSIBLE CLARIFICATION OF PROCEDURES REQUIRED TO ASSURE SMOOTH ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES OF KOREAN RED GINSENG PRODUCTS.

2. KOREAN RED GINSENG PROUCTS ARE MANUFACTURED BY THE OFFICE OF MONOPOLY AND SUBJECT TO THE MONOPOLY'S RIGID QUALITY CONTROL. THE MONOPOLY HAS ADVISED THAT ON OR ABOUT MARCH 3, LOS ANGELES FDA AUTHORITIES DETAINED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

KOREAN RED GINSENG EXTRACT  
KOREAN RED GINSENG EXTRACT POWDER (FREEZE DRIED)  
KOREAN RED GINSENG TABLETS

3. WORD WAS PASSED TO THE OFFICE OF MONOPOLY FROM IKIG (INTERNATIONAL/KOREAN GINSENG INDUSTRIES) TRADING CO. LTD., ITS EXCLUSIVE DESIGNATED IMPORTER AND DISTRIBUTOR IN LOS ANGELES THAT THE ABOVE DESCRIBED RED GINSENG PRODUCTS, WHICH HERETOFORE HAD BEEN PERMITTED ENTRY WITHOUT QUESTION, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 SEOUL 01867 080902Z

WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED ENTRY UNLESS THESE PRODUCTS ARE RECOGNIZED AS GRAS (GENERALLY RECOGNIZED AS SAFE) ITEMS.

4. IKIG WAS ADVISED BY FDA LOCAL AUTHORITIES IN LOS ANGELES THAT A CERTIFICATION OF MANUFACTURING PROCESSES UTILIZED AND A CERTIFICATION OF INSPECTION WHICH STATES THE DETAILED COMPONENTS OF THE PRODUCTS MUST BE RECEIVED FROM THE OFFICE

OF MONOPOLY AND ENDORSED BY FOOD AND DRUG REPRESENTATIVES  
STATIONED IN KOREA OR THE U.S. EMBASSY. TO OUR KNOWLEDGE,  
THERE IS NO FDA OFFICIAL IN KOREA WHO COULD PROVIDE THE NECESSARY  
ENDORSEMENTS. OFFICE OF MONOPOLY IS ADVISED THAT REQUESTED  
CERTIFICATIONS MUST BE PROVIDED WITHIN TEN DAYS OF THE DATE  
OF DETAINMENT.

5. PLEASE ADVISE WHAT ACTION IS EXPECTED OF OFFICE OF MONOPOLY  
AND OF THE U.S. EMBASSY SEOUL.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** EPAP, KS, US  
**To:** FDA STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009